ZAMI,INC.

Atlanta's Premiere African-American Lesbian Organization

THE AUDRE LORDE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

PURPOSE OF AWARDS

The *Audre Lorde Scholarship Awards* are designed to recognize **out*** lesbians of African descent who are making significant contributions to their communities. ZAMI wants to support and encourage their continuing education by providing scholarships to those women enrolled in accredited technical, undergraduate and graduate programs.

ELIGIBILITY

- An out lesbian of African descent who is a graduating high school senior or currently attending any technical, undergraduate or graduate school located in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia
- Accepted or registered at a post-secondary educational institution for full or part-time attendance as defined by the institution
- Cumulative high school/college/or technical school grade point average of 2.5 or higher
- Lesbians 40 years plus are strongly encouraged to apply

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Submit official/unofficial up- to- date academic transcript (s). You may send transcripts only from your most recent school, provided two semesters of study are included.
- Acceptance letter if you are an entering freshman
- Completed scholarship application form
- A two-three page typed statement of purpose
- Two letters of recommendations from a teacher, mentor, employer or activist/organizer in the lesbian/gay community
- A photo (head shot) any size, black/ white or color, which may be used at the announcement of the award

AWARDS

Scholarship Amount ----- $1000

Out* is defined as an acknowledgement of lesbian identify to self, and or to family, friends, and community.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Lesbians of African descent interested in obtaining an application should call (404) 370-0911 or e-mail zami@zami.org You may also download an application from our website at www.zami.org

All application materials must be postmarked or e-mailed by July 15, 2001 to P.O. Box 2502, Decatur, Georgia 30031.

We prefer that all application materials be mailed as one package. If the reference or transcript is mailed under separate cover, the student is responsible for making sure that we receive it on or before the deadline.

Application materials e-mailed will only be considered if attached as a word perfect or word document. (Applications pasted in email messages will not be considered.)

Incomplete or late applications will not be reviewed.

Awards are for the current academic year only and by law are paid directly to the academic institution. Recipients may apply each year for renewal.

A ZAMI scholarship committee reviews applications. Finalists may be invited to participate in a face-to-face or telephone interview.

Early applications are encouraged.

NOTE: Award recipients are expected to attend the Audre Lorde Scholarship Awards Ceremony scheduled for September, 2001 in Atlanta, Georgia. All expenses are paid by ZAMI.

ZAMI: A Carriacou word for women who work together as friends and lovers.....

ZAMI, INC.

Application for The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

P.O. Box 2502, Decatur, Georgia 30031

PLEASE TYPE / PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Deadline (post-mark) for this application is JULY 15, 2001

PERSONAL DATA

Name_____
Last First MI

Address _____

Home Phone No. _____Work Phone No._____

Email address _____

Permanent Address _____

Date of birth_____

Social Security Number_____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Institution: _____ Undergraduate Graduate Circle One

Address of Registrar's/ Financial Aid Office:

_____

Telephone Number: _____

Area of Study: _____Expected Year of Graduation: _____

ACADEMIC INVOLVEMENT

List Academic Honors/Awards or Extracurricular Accomplishments:

_____

_____

_____

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Please describe any efforts or accomplishments that demonstrate your commitment to the lesbian / gay/bisexual/transgender community. (Either describe below, in your personal statement or attach as an addendum. If attached or in your statement, please indicate below)

EMPLOYMENT

List paid and /or volunteer experiences:

Employer	Job Title	Location	Dates

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Please write a 2-3 page statement describing who you are, the ways in which you live your life as an out black lesbian and why you believe you deserve an award from the Audre Lorde scholarship fund. We are especially interested in hearing about important experiences, interests and abilities as they intersect sexual orientation, race, class and gender.

DECLARATION (Must be signed for applications to be considered)

I declare that the information provided above and attached is both accurate and truthful, and I will refund my scholarship if it is not.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

ZAMI, Inc.
THE AUDRE LORDE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Established in 1995, the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Executive Director, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to *Wendi O'Neal* from Spelman College and *Akeya Works* from Georgia State University. Other Audre Lorde Scholars are *Simone Bell, Donna Hope, Virginia Hunt, Barbara Gibson, Efia Miles, Debra Collette Strother, Nina Wilson, Kalita Settle, Barbara Jackson, Maisha Peterson and Jessica Jones. Works* and *Bell* are two-time scholarship recipients.

NAMED AWARDS

The **Mary Anne Adams Community Activist Award** is named in honor of one of Atlanta's longtime community organizers and activists. Adams, the creator of the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund, serves as ZAMI's Executive Director and is the founder of Sister Outsider, an Atlanta based organization, which deals with lesbians and aging issues. A native of Oxford, Mississippi, she is currently a full-time graduate student attending Georgia State University.

The **Sheryl Burke Legal Justice Award** is named in honor of a personal injury attorney based in Atlanta and California. Burke, a native of Los Angeles, California is a graduate of St Louis University Law School and is a member of the National and Georgia Trial Lawyers' Association. Burke makes her home in Atlanta and is involved in supporting many local organizations including camps, scholarship funds, churches and educational groups.

The **Sylvia Dunmore Computer Technology Award** is named in honor of the CEO and founder of TradeshowServices.com. The Atlanta based internet company was founded in 1999 to address the needs of the meeting planning industry who was seeking a more effective tool to identify pre-qualified suppliers to meetings, conventions and tradeshows. A native of Washington, D.C., Dunmore is active in lesbian and gay issues that particularly deal with African Americans being afforded the same constitutional rights as others.

NAMED AWARDS

The **Ruth C. Ellis Herstory Award** is named in honor of the oldest known "out" African-American lesbian. Born July 23, 1899 in Springfield, Illinois, Ellis is the subject of a one hour documentary by filmmaker Yvonne Welbon: "Living With Pride: Ruth C. Ellis @ 100. Ellis has resided in Detroit, Michigan since 1937 where she operated her own business, "Ellis and Franklin Printing Company." In Detroit, Michigan, the African American Lesbians Organized to Renew Dignity and Empowerment (the A. LORDE Collective) is planning to create a shelter for Gay youths and name it "The Ruth Ellis Center."

The **Joan P. Garner Social Change Award** is named in honor of the Executive Director of the Southern Partners Fund located in Atlanta. Garner, a native of Washington, D.C., has served as Executive Director of the Fund for Southern Communities and chair of the board of directors of the Funding Exchange. Garner has a long history of involvement in social change philanthropy.

The **Catherine E. McKinley Journalism Award** is named in honor of the author of *THE BOOK OF SARAHS*, (William Morrow, forthcoming in 2000) and co-editor of *AFREKETE* (Anchor Books/Doubleday, 1995), the first published collection of writings by Black lesbians. McKinley, a native of Attleboro, Massachusetts, now lives in New York City, and serves as the Associate Director of the Publishing Certificate Program at City College of New York. She is the recipient of a Fulbright Student Scholarship in Ghana for the 1999-2000 academic year.

The **Kathleen E. Morris Creative Writing Award** is named in honor of the author of *SPEAKING IN WHISPERS, AFRICAN-AMERICAN LESBIAN EROTICA.* Morris' writing has also appeared in *Best Lesbian Erotica* in 1997 and several magazines, including *Venus, Women In The Life* and *Mosaic Magazine.* Morris, a native of Mt. Vernon, NY, now living in Boston also facilitates "The Erotica Pen," a national writing workshop series designed to encourage wimmin in the discovery of their creative and sensual powers through the art of writing.

The **Iris F. Rafi Women's Studies Award** is named for one of the co-founders of ZAMI. Dr. Rafi, a native of Miami, Florida, studied Caribbean Women's literature and cross-cultural Black Women's studies at Emory University. She is a former professor of literature at Spelman College and Clark Atlanta University and is currently teaching at Morris Brown College in Atlanta.

NAMED AWARDS

The **Jocelyn E. Taylor Filmmaking Award** is named for a prominent independent video artist whose work has been internationally exhibited, including at the 1997 Johannesburg Biennial, South Africa; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art; Deitch Projects in New York and the Museum of Belles Artes, Caracas. Taylor, a native of Washington, D.C. now living in New York City has produced and directed numerous provocative videos about Black lesbians.

The **Sherry Turner Creative Arts Award** is named for a developmental psychologist whose research and teaching focus on the socialization of African American women and girls. As an ordained minister, Dr. Turner is committed to fighting against racism, sexism, and homophobia. As an artist, she depicts positive images of African American women and girls and explores themes of self-acceptance, community and spirituality. A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Turner teaches and lives in Amherst, Massachusetts.